



UTAH OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MARK SHURTLEFF

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

OCTOBER 2006

AG SHURTLEFF CALLS ON HOLLYWOOD TO PACK MOVIES WITH ANTI-SMOKING ADS

Attorney General Mark Shurtleff is calling upon Hollywood's major motion picture studios to insert anti-smoking public service announcements in all DVDs and videos in which smoking is depicted. Shurtleff and the attorneys general from 40 other states sent each studio three "classic" truth® anti-smoking campaign messages.

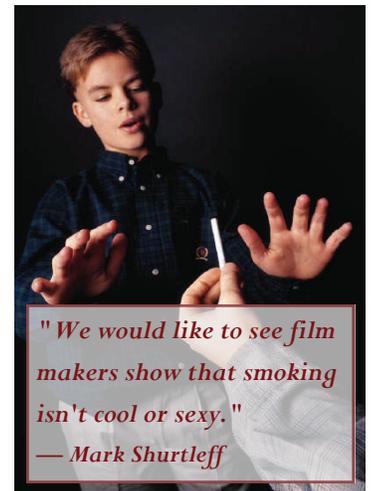
"We made them an offer they shouldn't refuse," says Shurtleff. "This is a chance for movie makers to make a real difference in protecting the health of their customers."

The PSAs were created by the American Legacy Foundation and are available at no cost for the studios' unlimited use.

Shurtleff and other attorneys general met with some of the top film directors in 2003 to discuss the Hollywood connection to teenage smoking. Those discussions centered on a study that

found that children who watched lots of smoking in movies were two-and-a-half times more likely to start smoking.

"We are seeking self-regulation by the movie industry instead of censorship or government interference," says Shurtleff. "We would like to see film makers show that smoking isn't cool or sexy. Smoking kills and it stinks. "



"We would like to see film makers show that smoking isn't cool or sexy."
— Mark Shurtleff

SHURTLEFF SPEAKS AT RALLY FOR OPERATION GIVE: HELPING OUR SOLDIERS TO WIN THE PEACE



HISTORY OF THE GUN SUIT:

- **Nov 2001** Mark Shurtleff issues a formal opinion that the University firearms policy violated the state law forbidding state or local entities restricting the use of firearms.
- **March 2002** The University files the first lawsuit in U.S. District Court and raises both federal and state law claims.
- **March 2003** Federal Judge Dale Kimball rules he has no jurisdiction to hear state law claims and abstains from hearing the federal claims until it is resolved in state courts.
- **May 2003** The University files state claims in Third District Court.
- **September 2003** Judge Robert Hilder rules that the University did not violate state law but he does not make a decision on state constitutional claims.
- **October 2003** The Attorney General files a notice of appeal.
- **February 2004** The Utah Legislature passes amendments to the firearms statutes making it clear that the University firearms policy violates state law.
- **August 2004** The Utah Supreme Court hears oral arguments on the state constitutional issue.
- **September 2006** The Utah Supreme Court rules against the University of Utah. U President Michael K. Young agrees to comply with state law and work with legislators on proposed changes to existing law.

UTAH OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL MARK SHURTLEFF

Utah State Capitol Complex
East Office Bldg, Suite 320
SLC UT 84114-2320

ATTORNEYGENERAL.UTAH.GOV

**For information
on legislation, cases, or other
matters being handled by our
office, please contact:**

Wade Farraway
801 325-3362
wfarraway@utah.gov

Catherine Higgins
801 538-1753
chiggins@utah.gov

GUN SUIT DECISION — A VICTORY FOR THE RULE OF LAW

The Utah Supreme Court ruled recently that the University of Utah's firearms policy violated state law. The 4-1 decision¹ comes four years after the University filed a lawsuit against Attorney General Mark Shurtleff and challenged his opinion that the school's policy was contrary to Utah's Uniform Firearms Act. The ruling makes it clear that the University of Utah, like any state agency, is subject to the laws of Utah. Only the Legislature has the power to decide what Utah's firearms laws should be.

"This decision is a victory for the rule of law. It also gives clarity to the University and allows school officials the opportunity to work with legislators to discuss any changes to state laws," says Attorney General Mark Shurtleff.

Justice Jill Parrish in the majority opinion wrote: "The Attorney General maintains that the University has no power or autonomy under the constitution that would permit it to disregard state law. We agree with the Attorney General."

President of the Utah Senate John L. Valentine praised the decision: "I appreciate what this ruling does for the second amendment issue but, more importantly, it reaffirms that government by the people, through their elected representatives, is the law of the land. There is really no room

for independent islands of authority within state government."



*AG Mark Shurtleff
addresses the media,
along with Assistant
Attorney General
Brent Burnett who
represented Shurtleff
in the suit.*

*Senator Peter
C. "Pete"
Knudsen also
spoke at the
press event.*

